

## **Compositional Do's**

**Please yourself first, not someone else.**

**Wander around to find the best subject.**

**Handhold your camera to find the best composition, then set up your tripod.**

**Preview the depth of field.**

**Check for background distractions.**

**Check the edges of the frame for distracting brightly-lit hotspots.**

**Check for merging tonalities and objects accidentally sticking into the frame.**

**Control or enhance the light if needed.**

**Be deliberate about camera placement and lens selection.**

**Position your camera as the subject dictates.**

**Simplify, simplify, simplify.**

## **Compositional Don'ts**

**Do not photograph the first subject you find: look for the best subject.**

**Do not mount your camera before you've found a good composition.**

**Do not extend your tripod legs before you've found your composition.**

**Do not photograph contrasty subjects in bright sunlight.**

**Do not bulls-eye your subject in the frame.**

**Do not tilt horizons or place them in the middle of the frame.**

**Do not try to capture everything in one picture.**

**Do not photograph low objects from a high position.**

**Do not let objects barely touch the edge of the frame.**

**Do not pick a flower (or harass an animal ) to move it to a better spot.**